

Safety On The Road

Keep Your Distance From Drunk Drivers!

If you see a driver whom you suspect has been drinking, do yourself and everybody else a favor and call the police.

Intoxicated drivers present a deadly hazard to occupants of other vehicles and to pedestrians.

Not every impaired driver will be driving erratically. Here are a number of telltale signs of a drinking or drugged driver:

- Speeding or driving too slowly, or driving at inconsistent speeds.
- Swerving and frequently changing lanes, as well as making unusually wide turns.
- Passing dangerously.
- Nearly missing another vehicle, pedestrian or obstacle.
- Disregarding traffic signals and signs, as well as stopping too soon or too late at stop signs.
- Failing to signal turns or lane changes, and failing to dim high-beam lights.
- Driving with no lights at night.
- Driving in low gear or grinding gears, and jerky starts and stops.
- Driving too close to the center line or too close to the shoulder of the road.
- Driving with windows down in cold weather or with the head out the window.
- Stopping for no apparent reason, and erratic braking.
- Following too closely.
- Making abrupt or illegal turns.

You don't want to share the road with a driver matching the above description. Here are some ways to defend yourself against drunk or drugged drivers:

- Report suspected drunk or drugged drivers to the nearest law enforcement agency by citizen band radio or cellular phone, or stop and call the police. They'll need a description of the vehicle, the license number, the location

and the direction the vehicle is headed.

- If you are behind, maintain a safe following distance. Don't try to pass because the driver may try to swerve into the passing lane.
- If someone is driving erratically behind you, flash your lights to warn on-coming traffic of the hazard.
- If you are in front of a drunk driver and fear he might involve you in an accident, turn right at the first safe intersection. Let the driver pass and return to your route.
- Pull over to the right and stop if the driver is approaching your vehicle. Avoid a head-on collision by sounding your horn or flashing your lights if you have time.

If you encounter an impaired driver, keep your distance. Then call the police so they can get him or her off the road.

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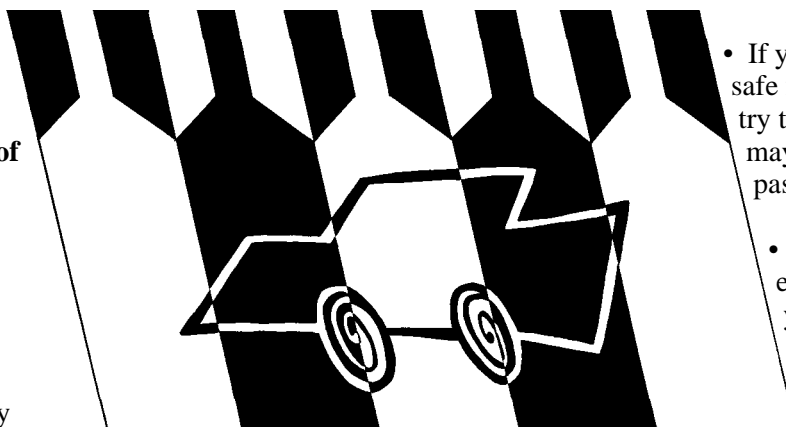
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